BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS)

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR 1968

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY
LIBRARY

1968

Mayor:
Councillor Mrs. E. M. CUTTILL

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health:
J. CALDWELL
L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:
J. G. REESON
F.I.A.S., M.I.P.H.E., M.B.I., C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector:
G. D. VAIL
M.I.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Meat Inspector:
A. WILKS
M.Inst.M., L.M.R.S.H.

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GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	2,326 acres
Rateable Value	£257,000
Value of Penny Rate	.. £1,050
Number of inhabited houses (approx.) ..	.. 1,900
Population	.. 5,500

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1968

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors of the Borough of St. Ives (Hunts).

Your Worship and Members of the Council:-

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1968.

Vital Statistics

Population — 5,500 The annual increase of 150—200 in population which has been occurring over the past three or four years has risen this year by an estimated 330, bringing the figure to five and a half thousand.

Birth Rate There were 35 more births credited to the town this year than in 1967 thereby raising the birth rate to a level well above last year's figure and considerably in advance of the national rate.

Death Rate 78 residents of the town died during 1968 — 23 more than in the previous year. The corrected death rate is consequently raised to 15.6 per 1,000 population and now stands considerably in advance of the rate for England and Wales as a whole (11.9). 55% of deaths were due primarily to Cardio vascular disorders and 20% to malignant disease.

Infant Mortality 4 infants died during the year before reaching the age of one year — 2 from pneumonia and 2 from birth injury. While the Infant Mortality Rate is, therefore, raised this year to a level greatly in advance of the national figure, it must be borne in mind that the actual deaths involved is small and consequently wide variations in rate will occur from year to year.

Social Conditions

Housing All the remaining properties in the Green Street area were purchased during the year and families rehoused where necessary. The Grove Court Housing Scheme for aged persons did not receive Ministerial consent but permission has been given for the scheme to proceed on a modified scale.

22 key worker dwellings were approved by the Ministry and it is anticipated that these will be erected in 1969.

With the offer of an additional Public Health Inspector, increased attention has been focussed on slum clearance resulting in several unfit dwellings being dealt with under the provision of the Housing Act.

Main Drainage Schemes were approved during the year to provide main drainage in the Westwood Road area and also in the Northern part of Ramsey Road.

As the town expands the sewage disposal problem increases. Concern has already been expressed in connection with the sludge drying facilities.

In conclusion I should like to express my thanks to Mr. Reeson and all other members of the Department's staff for the assistance they have given me and for all the work they have done during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES CALDWELL.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1968

Estimated mid year population .. 5,500

Live Births	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Legitimate	71	65	136
Illegitimate	5	4	9
Totals	76	69	145

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population ..	26.4
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (.87)	23.4
Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	16.9

Still Births			
Legitimate	1	—	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	1	—	1

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	7.0
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births (England and Wales) ..	14.0

Deaths			
	37	41	78

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population ..	14.2
Death rate corrected by comparability factor (1.1)	15.6
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (England and Wales)	11.9

Infant Mortality — Deaths of Infants under 1 year			
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	3	1	4

Infant mortality rate (Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	28.0
Infant mortality rate (England and Wales) ..	18.0

Table classifying deaths under age groups

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 4 weeks	1	1	2
4 weeks and under 1 year	2	—	2
1 year and under 5 years	—	1	1
5 and under 15 years	—	—	—
15 and under 25 years	—	—	—
25 and under 35 years	1	—	1
35 and under 45 years	—	1	1
45 and under 55 years	4	—	4
55 and under 65 years	4	8	12
65 and under 75 years	11	8	19
75 years and over	14	22	36
Totals	37	41	78

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The following table indicates the trend in population, birth and death rates for the Borough over the past five years:-

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Population	4,700	4,850	5,000	5,170	5,500
Births					
Total live births	123	114	124	110	145
Crude birth rate	26.2	23.5	24.8	21.3	26.4
Area comparability factor	.93	.88	.88	.88	.87
Corrected birth rate	24.3	20.7	21.8	18.7	23.4
Birth rate (England and Wales)	18.4	18.1	17.7	17.2	16.9
Deaths					
Total deaths	35	46	52	55	78
Crude death rate	7.4	9.5	10.4	10.6	14.2
Area comparability factor	1.06	1.23	1.19	1.2	1.1
Corrected death rate	7.9	11.7	12.4	12.7	15.6
Death rate (England and Wales)	11.3	11.5	11.7	11.2	11.9

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING 1968

	Total cases notified
Scarlet fever	—
Whooping cough	—
Diphtheria	—
Measles	1
Acute pneumonia	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—
Typhoid fever	—
Paratyphoid fever	—
Erysipelas	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—
Infective hepatitis	—
Dysentery	—
Total	1

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Registrar General's List)

List No.	Causes	Male	Female
B19 (2)	Malignant neoplasm — lung, bronchus	4	—
B19 (5)	Leukaemia	—	2
B19 (6)	Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	4	6
B46 (4)	Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	—	1
B27	Hypertensive disease	—	1
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	10	14
B29	Other forms of Heart Disease	3	1
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	4	5
B46 (5)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	3
B31	Influenza	—	1
B32	Pneumonia	3	3
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	3	1
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—
B46 (7)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	—	1
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	1
BE48	All Other Accidents	2	1
	Total all Causes	37	41

TUBERCULOSIS

Total number on Register on 31st December, 1968 .. 17

Pulmonary .. 16 Non-pulmonary .. 1

No new cases diagnosed **No new cases transferred in**

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

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GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) **Laboratory Facilities**

The following laboratory facilities have been available to this Authority and to General Practitioners in the area:- Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge. (Tel: Cambridge 55526)

Public Analyst (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tenison Road, Cambridge. (Tel: Cambridge 2097)

(b) **Ambulance Services**

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctor's orders.
(Tel: Huntingdon 3348)

(c) **Home Nursing**

Nurse / Midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council carried out home nursing and attended maternity cases in the Borough.

(d) **Clinic and Treatment Centres**

(i) The following services were provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council:-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	Every Monday 9.30-10.30 a.m.	Child Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon
Infant Welfare	Children (0-5 years)	Every Friday 2-4 p.m. 1st and 3rd Wednesday in month 2-4 p.m.	Health Centre Ramsey Road St. Ives
Dental	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	by appointment	Health Centre Ramsey Road St. Ives
	Pre-Natal and Nursing Mothers	by appointment	Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon

(ii) The following Health Services were provided by the Regional Hospital Board:-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday 10-12 noon	County Hospital Huntingdon
Venereal Disease	All cases	Tuesday from 2.30 p.m. Thursday from 2.30 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge
	Males	Monday from 4.30 p.m. Wed. from 5.30 p.m.	Out-Patients' Department Memorial Hospital Peterborough
	Females	Tuesday from 10 30 a.m. Thursday from 4.30 p.m.	
Orthopaedic	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	2nd and 4th Tuesday 10-12 noon and by appointment	Child Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service:-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	By appointment	Child Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Obstetrical, Paediatric, Gynaecological and Dental Out-Patients' Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) **Hospital Services**

Fever Cases of Infectious Disease requiring hospital treatment were admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough and Ely.

General Hospital Services were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases were admitted to Maternity Unit, Primrose Lane, Huntingdon and Maternity Hospital, Mill Road, Cambridge.

Clinics run by the Family Planning Association are held at the Child Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon every Wednesday evening 7—8 p.m., at the Child Health Centre, Almond Road, St. Neots, every Tuesday evening 7—8 p.m. and the 1st and 3rd Thursday from 9—11.30 a.m., and at the Child Health Centre, Ramsey Road, St. Ives on the 2nd and 4th Monday from 9—11.30 a.m.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1968

WATER SUPPLIES

Both quantity and quality has again been satisfactory and there have been no complaints received during the year.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There has been difficulty in dealing with the sludge from the Works, but alternative methods are being investigated in order to find a solution at a cost which the Borough can afford.

In order to deal with new development, extensions to the original scheme have had to be considered. New sewers will be laid to deal with the Ramsey Road area and a new gravity sewer will replace the sewage disposal works in Westwood Road. This will enable houses not now on the sewer to be taken in.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

In order to relieve the flow in a water course which takes water from the Somersham Road area, and so attempt to prevent backflowing on to the Industrial Estate, a watercourse from near the Manchester Arms by the Mobile Homes Park, and entering the Farthing Lane drain, was cleaned out.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The collection has again been carried out in a very satisfactory manner.

The Council is considering reports on the possibility of carrying out the collection in the Borough by its own Labour Force and with its own vehicles. It is being suggested that the collection could be from back doors.

SWIMMING POOLS

The Scheme for the provision of a Joint Swimming Pool by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council, St. Ives Borough Council and the Rural District Council has been pursued and all Councils have been informed that loan sanction will be forthcoming for such a project. Plans are in the final stages of preparation and it is hoped that construction will be well advanced before the end of 1969.

SHOP ACTS

No infringements have been found during the year.

CARAVANS

The Mobile Homes Park has been well maintained and run with a Resident Warden. Owing to the fact that larger and better vans have been utilised, some of the Site Licence Conditions have not been complied with. The Owners appreciate the position and intend to have the matter rectified in order to comply.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

No complaints have been received during the year in connection with smoke nuisances.

BED BUGS

No reports of infestation by bed bugs have been received, and no premises found to be infested.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

The Contract for the inspection for and destruction of rats and mice was renewed for the year. No complaints of the service have been received.

PETROLEUM ACTS

The number of Licences issued during the year was as follows:-

Over 1,000 gallons	..	2
500—1,000 ,,	..	7
Under 500 ,,	..	8

All have been checked for compliance with the electrical requirements where electricity was involved.

ABATTOIR

It was found necessary during the year to enlarge both the hide and skin room and the gut room. This was effected by additions to the front. A revolving screen was also incorporated into the drainage system to take out the blood clots and other debris.

NOISE ABATEMENT

It has not been necessary to take any formal action for noise abatement during the year.

DANGEROUS BUILDINGS

Two Council houses are considered to be dangerous, due to settlement, and they will be vacated at the earliest possible moment.

GENERAL NUISANCES

A nuisance, due to an accumulation of rubbish, was abated upon the service of Informal Notices.
Informal Notices were served for the abatement of nuisances caused by (a) accumulation of manure and (b) pollution of a ditch. At the end of the year, these had not been abated.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

Three firms are Registered under the above Act.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The number of premises Registered under the above Act are as follows:-

Offices	35
Retail Shops	42
Wholesale Warehouses ..	5
Catering Establishments ..	2

RODENT CONTROL

Number of complaints received ..	69
Number of visits made	158

A ten per cent test baiting of sewers was also undertaken.

HOUSING

(a) **NEW HOUSING** The number of new houses built during the year was as follows:-

Council	16
Private	132

(b) **OVERCROWDING** No cases of overcrowding have been found during the year.

(c) **SLUM CLEARANCE**

Number of houses reported unfit	4
Number of houses unfit where Demolition Orders were made	2
Number of houses unfit where Closing Orders were made	2

(d) **GRANTS** Four applications for Standard Grants and one for Discretionary Grant have been granted. One application was refused because work had been commenced prior to application, and one was withdrawn.

FACTORIES ACTS

Some new factories have been established on the Industrial Estate and the Inspections under the Factories Act are as follows:-

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6		22	Nil	Nil
(2) Section 7		40	Nil	Nil
Total	41	62	Nil	Nil

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) unsuitable or defective	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) **MEAT** The following Table shows the number of animals killed, carcases inspected, and meat condemned at the Abattoir:-

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs and Sows
Number killed	6,019	255	7,603	18,848
Number inspected	6,019	255	7,603	18,848
(All diseases except tuberculosis):-				
Whole carcases condemned	26	9	26	56
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	29	—	24	171
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	.913	3.52	.657	1.125
(Tuberculosis only):-				
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	78
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	.413
Cysticercosis:-				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—

During the year a total weight of 27 tons 3 cwt. 3 stn. 13 lbs. of meat and offal was condemned at the Abattoir.

(b) **POULTRY** Regular inspections have been made at the local poultry killing and processing station, and during the year, 8,144 carcases were condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

(c) **SHOP INSPECTIONS** All food shops have been inspected under Food Hygiene Regulations and Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Acts, and the following food has been condemned as being unfit:-

	cwt.	sts.	lbs.	oz.
Corned Beef	1.	5.	10.	0.
Luncheon Meat	1.	0.	4.	0.
Tinned Tomatoes		2.	7.	7.
Cooked Ham		2.	9.	14.
Peach Pie Filling		2.	1.	8½.
Fruit Cocktail			6.	12.
Prunes		3.	7.	0.
Tinned Kidney			8.	0.
Cherries			12.	0.
Tinned Ox Tongue			6.	0.
Jellied Veal			4.	0.
Chopped Pork			4.	0.
Pork Roll			3.	8.
Frozen Food	279 packets			
Jellies	104 ,,			

(d) **ICE CREAM** There are sixteen shops registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, and there are no Manufacturers.

(e) **PROSECUTIONS** The following prosecutions were taken, with the results shown:-

1) Wholesaler fined £25 plus costs for bread containing silica.
2) Retailer fined £5 for selling yoghurt containing foreign matter.
3) Retailer found not guilty of selling mutton which was unfit.
4) Retailer fined £25 plus costs for selling pork pie which was unfit.

The Ridley Press, St. Ives, Huntingdon